

THE GREAT COMMUNICATOR



Happy Birthday Chiefs



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FOD walkdown

Prior to flight operations on board USS Lake Champlain (CG 57), flight deck crew members perform a foreign object debris (FOD) walk down of the landing area. Lake Champlain is part of the Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group currently deployed as part of a routine rotation of U.S. maritime forces in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, as well as conducting Maritime Security Operations (MSO) in the region.

Photo by PH3 (AW) Aaron Burden

On the front cover



Graphic by:
DM3 Jason Lee

Chiefs Navy-wide celebrated the 113th anniversary of the establishment of the chief petty officer community April 1.

This newspaper is an authorized publication for military members on board USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76). Contents of The Great Communicator are not the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the United States Navy.

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Happy 113th birthday, Chiefs!

By PHAN Lawrence Davis

Staff Writer

April Fools Day isn't the only significant thing about the 1st of April. Here's a hint; go tell your chief "Happy 113th Birthday!" Your chief should know you're referring to the 113th anniversary of the establishment of the chief petty officer community.

Here aboard USS Ronald Reagan (CVN

76), the chief's mess celebrated the event with a ceremonial dinner and cake cutting. Chiefs discussed the history and heritage of the chief petty officer while commemorating the day.

The legacy began April 1, 1893 when the Navy officially established the grade of chief petty officer. At the time, there were only nine ratings; master-at-arms, boatswain's

mate, quartermaster, gunner's mate, machinist, carpenter's mate, yeoman, apothecary and band masters.

According to the Naval Historical Center Web site, before there were chief petty officers and even after they were established, commanding officers could promote petty officers to temporary higher positions or "chief positions" in order to fill

vacancies around the ship. Sailors served various lengths of time under these acting positions; generally six months to a year. If service was satisfactory, the captain recommended to the Bureau of Navigation (now called the Bureau of Personnel, as of Oct. 1, 1942) that an individual be given a permanent appointment for the rate in which he served.

Senior chief and master chief pay grades were created June 1, 1958 under an Amendment to the Career Compensation Act of 1949. Eligibility for promotion to senior chief was restricted to chiefs with a minimum of four years in grade and a total of ten years of service. To advance from chief to master chief, a minimum of six years service as a

Chiefs... Cont. on page 4

Helo maintenance



PH3 Chris Blachly

Lt. j.g. Brandon Sheets from Abilene, Texas performs a pre-flight inspection of an SH-60 "Seahawk" assigned to the "Black Knights" of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Four (HS-4) on the flight deck of USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76). HS-4 is part of Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 14, currently embarked aboard Reagan.

RRSG Sailors set new United Through Reading Record

By JOC (SW) Donnie Ryan

Managing Editor

Sailors aboard USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) have set a new record April 2 for the number of books read on tape for their children during deployment as part of the United Through Reading (UTR) program. More than 1,070 UTR recordings have been made aboard Reagan since the program began Jan. 11.

Sponsored by the Family Literacy Foundation, the UTR program allows deployed Sailors to read books to their children on video tape or DVD, and then mail them back home. The goals of the program are to boost family morale, reinforce parental support for the spouse left at home, and ease fears by children about parental absence during the deployment.

UTR officials have stated that the previous record holder was USS Harry S Truman (CVN 75) whose crew made 1,069 recordings during a six-month deployment. With Reagan currently in the middle of its deployment, the record number is expected to increase even more over the next two months.

According to Kate McDevitt, UTR program manager, the Reagan team has been outstanding in implementing, promoting and celebrating the UTR program.

"I just want to thank and congratulate all of you for your hard work thus far. This program would not be successful without your strong support. Our sincerest thanks," said

McDevitt.

Lt. Chris Anderson, UTR program coordinator for Reagan, said he attributes the success of the program to the Sailors who have volunteered to operate the cameras at all hours of the day and night. According to Anderson, this allows Sailors who work different shifts to still take part in the program.

"The most important thing we did was make the program accessible for all Reagan Sailors," said Anderson. "We post a schedule making the program available from 9 a.m. to 3 a.m. every day while we are underway."

Anderson also said most of the success for the program goes to Reagan's First Class Association, who manages the program with volunteers by setting up the room, microphone and video camera. He also credits the plan of the day notes, shipboard television commercials, and "all hands" emails with getting the word out to Reagan Sailors about the program.

Capt. Terry B. Kraft, Reagan's commanding officer, said he is glad Sailors are taking part in the program during the current deployment. "It's easy for us to get caught up in the day to day operations of a carrier at sea, but the United Through Reading program is a great way Sailors can keep in touch with their families, especially for those with small children. My favorite story is the one about the four year old girl who kissed the TV when her Daddy was on," said Kraft.

InsiderdotCom

Gadgets and Gizmos

www.gadgetspy.co.uk

If you like gadgets and gizmos this is the site for you. Gadgetspy has all the latest information about electronics and goodies. The site is constantly updated to provide up to date information about release dates for certain console systems, news and specs on the top of line laptops, MP3 players built into shoes, mobile televisions, next generation satellite navigation systems, virtual reality headsets for console gaming systems and much, much more. The site is arranged in eight categories: audio, comms, compute, entertain, gadgets, visualize, wireless, and misc. If you want the top of the line technology at your finger tips this is the web site for you.

Gifts made easy

www.surprise.com

Surprise.com is a unique gift site that isn't trying to sell you anything. The website is a database of gift ideas from hundreds of different websites, maintained by the staff. They locate the best gifts, and then point you to the trusted merchants who sell them. The site is organized into hundreds of categories. Find the appropriate category for your recipient such as bath connoisseur or sports fan and you'll be on your way to finding a great gift. In order to find the category that's a perfect fit for your recipient, you can check out the gift guide section. So go ahead and send your friends and loved ones a surprise.

This Day in History

1956 Elvis appears on the "Milton Berle Show"

Elvis sings his first RCA recording, "Heartbreak Hotel," on NBC's Milton Berle Show. An estimated 25 percent of America's population saw him sing that night; by April 21, the song had become Elvis' first No. 1 single.

1974 Series of deadly twisters hits U.S. heartland

On this day in 1974, 148 tornadoes hit the United States heartland within 16 hours. By the time the deadly storm ended, 330 people had died.

Chiefs

Continued from page 3

chief petty officer with a total of 13 years service was required.

The fouled anchor is the emblem of the chief petty officer. Attached to the anchor is a length of chain and the letters U.S.N. While the emblem identifies a chief petty officer, all chiefs know there is a more noble and glorious meaning for it.

The "U" stands for unity, which reminds a chief of cooperation, maintaining harmony and continuity of purpose and action. The "S" stands for service, which reminds them of service to their fellow man and our Navy. The "N" stands for navigation, which reminds

"The title chief petty officer carries with it responsibilities and privileges no other armed force in the world grants enlisted people."

**-- Adm. Frank Kelso II
Former CNO**

them to keep themselves on a true course so that they may walk upright before God and man, but especially with fellow Chiefs.

According to Adm. Frank Kelso II, a former Chief of Naval Operations, the title chief petty officer carries with it responsibilities and privileges no other armed force in the world grants enlisted people.

"Our chief petty officer mess along with the Airwing 14 team is one of the best conglomerations of chief petty officers that I've ever had the opportunity to work with," said Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Jim Delozier, USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76). "I am very proud to be the Command Master Chief aboard Ronald Reagan."

WANTED CAPTIONS



Calling all comedians! So you think you're pretty funny, huh? Come up with an amusing, appropriate caption for this photo and send it to sennsd@cvn76.navy.mil with "Caption Contest" in the subject line. The winning caption will be posted in the next issue.

LAST ISSUE'S WINNERS

FIRST

Look Air Boss, da plane, da plane!

ATCS Terrence McClain
AIMD/IM3

SECOND

AN Shmuckatelli eyes the trajectory in preparation for a booger launching.

ATAN Eric Dymek
AIMD/IM3



THIRD

And today on the flight deck, Operation Ditz commenced.

Anonymous



CNIC FY 2005 Stockholders' Report Available

By Zona Lewis,
Commander, Navy
Installations Command
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) released its Fiscal Year (FY) 2005 Stockholders' Report, March 16.

The report provides details on what CNIC did during FY 2005 with the resources allocated to it as an echelon II command in the context of continuing operations in support of the global war on terrorism, the implementation of a new operational concept for Navy forces through the Fleet Response Plan, and the response to the catastrophic hurricane damage that devastated Navy communities along the Gulf Coast.

CNO Makes Good on Pledge with Second Visit to JFK

By JO2 (SW) Timothy Cox,
USS John F. Kennedy
Public Affairs

**NAVAL STATION
MAYPORT, Fla. (NNS)** - Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Michael G.

Mullen paid a special visit to USS John F. Kennedy (JFK) (CV 67) March 29 in order to keep Sailors aboard abreast of the ongoing debate over the storied carrier's future.

Mullen, flanked by Kennedy Commanding Officer Capt. Dennis FitzPatrick and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SS/AW) Terry Scott, addressed the crew for several minutes and then took questions.

Navy Customs Battalion Papa Returns Home

By JO1 Carla Morton,
Fleet Public Affairs Center
Atlantic

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) -- About 400 Mobilized Reservists of Naval Expeditionary Logistics Support Force (NAVELSF) Forward Group Papa returned to Norfolk March 29 from a nearly seven-month deployment after providing support for the Department of Defense's customs inspection mission in Iraq and Kuwait in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Their mission was to ensure returning service members and equipment carried no unwanted plants, pests or diseases to American shores.

New Dental Dressing Simplifies Dental Care for Deployed Personnel

By Christine Mahoney,
Bureau of Medicine and
Surgery Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Scientists at Great Lakes Naval Institute for Dental and Biomedical Research (NIDBR) developed a new Forward Deployable Dental Dressing (FDDD) for deployed personnel to use in the field when a non-life threatening dental injury occurs.

The dressing will be used to treat dental injuries such as fractured teeth, loose fillings and crowns.

PCD New Orleans Celebrates Women in the Military

By JO2 Alexis R. Brown,
Navy Region Southwest
Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO (NNS) -- Pre-Commissioning Detachment (PCD) New Orleans held a Women's History Month celebration and continental breakfast, March 24, at the Training Support Center auditorium at Naval Base San Diego.

The celebration honored those women who have

served in the military and continue to make history today.

Previously 'Unknown' Pearl Harbor Victim Reburied With Full Honors

From American Forces
Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- A once-unknown sailor killed in the Pearl Harbor attack almost 65 years ago was laid to rest March 29 with full honors and a grave marker bearing his name, thanks to sleuth work by a Pearl Harbor survivor and U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command's (JPAC) expertise.

Seaman 2nd Class Warren Paul Hickok was reinterred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, more commonly called the Punchbowl. The 18-year-old Kalamazoo, Mich., native had been among more than 1,500 Sailors, Soldiers, Marines and civilians killed during the Dec. 7, 1941, attack but never identified.

Hickok was assigned to the light mine layer USS Sicard (DM 21) when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.

Rushmore Receives High Score on ULTRA-C Certification

By JO1 Paula M. Ludwick,
Commander, Naval
Surface Force Public
Affairs

SAN DIEGO (NNS) - USS Rushmore (LSD 47) earned the highest score for damage control readiness of any ship in the Atlantic and Pacific fleet during their unit level training assessment (ULTRA-C) certification as part of the SHIPTRAIN program, March 17.

Safe Haven Extension Available for Hurricane Katrina Military Family Members

By Lt. Charles A. Gasque,
Navy Family Disaster
Assistance

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Dependents of Navy military personnel who were affected by Hurricane Katrina have been approved for extensions of their "Safe Haven" benefits. Current Safe Haven and 100 percent per diem allowances expire April 17.

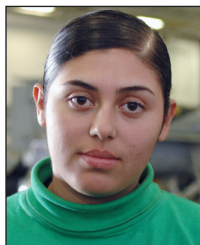
FIVE DISK CHANGER



ABH3 (AW) Howard Spencer
Follow the Leader - Korn
40 oz. to Freedom - Sublime
Greatest Hits - Ice Cube
Metora - Linkin Park



MA2 Jeremy Patrick
Trap Muzik - TI
Thugs R US - Trick Daddy
Ghetto Classic - Jaihem
Untouchable - Scarface
Urban Legend - TI



ABEAN Claudia Flores
The Sickness - Disturbed
Ten Thousand Fists - Disturbed
Toxicity - System of a Down
Turnin' Point - Mario



AA Michelle Martinez
Just Be - DJ Tiesto
Hands Down - Dashboard
Hawthorne Heights
Trance 2005
40 oz. to Freedom - Sublime

NMCRS True Stories

by LI3 Annie Turner

"True Stories" is a column that will run throughout the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society's fund drive.

Many of us do not think that our shipmates are in need of help from Navy Marine Corp Relief Society. The fact of the matter is that Ronald Reagan sailors go to NMCRS on a regular basis for emergency financial assistance. One Sailor has chosen to share his experience with the Great Communicator.

For a recently married couple, living paycheck to paycheck can be extremely stressful. With the added pressures of a new baby and a transfer from Japan to San Diego, the every day expenses just kept adding up. Before they knew it the paycheck was gone again and they were waiting for the next one to come in.

The situation was made worse when the young couple was involved in a car accident and did not have the money to get their vehicle back in working order. The Sailor and his wife contacted Navy Marine Corp Relief Society in the hopes that they would be able to help them in their time of need. NMCRS was able to approve an interest free loan for the new family.

The Sailor, who has asked not to be named, had this to say about his experience with Navy Marine Corp Relief Society. "Navy Relief came to my aid in a time of need. I have for quite some time given and will continue to give to make sure other Sailors are taken care of in their time of need."

To donate to the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society, contact your division NMCRS representative.

Today's Movies

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Ch. 2 - The Fog | Ch. 2 - Domino |
| Ch. 3 - Jaws 2 | Ch. 3 - Ghost Ship |
| Ch. 4 - The | Ch. 4 - Madagascar |
| 9th-Laws | Ch. 5 - Fair Game |
| Ch. 5 - Dinner Rush | |

Tomorrow's Movies

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Ch. 2 - The | Ch. 2 - Matchstick |
| Interpreter | Men |
| Ch. 3 - Meet te | Ch. 3 - Shattered |
| Fockers | Glass |
| Ch. 4 - Open Range | Ch. 4 - Rent Control |
| Ch. 5 - The Order | Ch. 5 - Scream |

Sempertoons by Charles Wolf



Just for Laughs

Comics provided by
Military.com

Private Murphy by Mark Baker



Ricky's Tour by Mike Jones



**SHIP'S STORE
HOURS****"FLYING
DUTCHMAN"**

3-148-O-Q

MON-SAT

0915-1400

1530-2000

SUNDAYS AND**HOLIDAYS**

1200-1700

"7-ELEVEN"

02-190-4-Q

MON-SAT

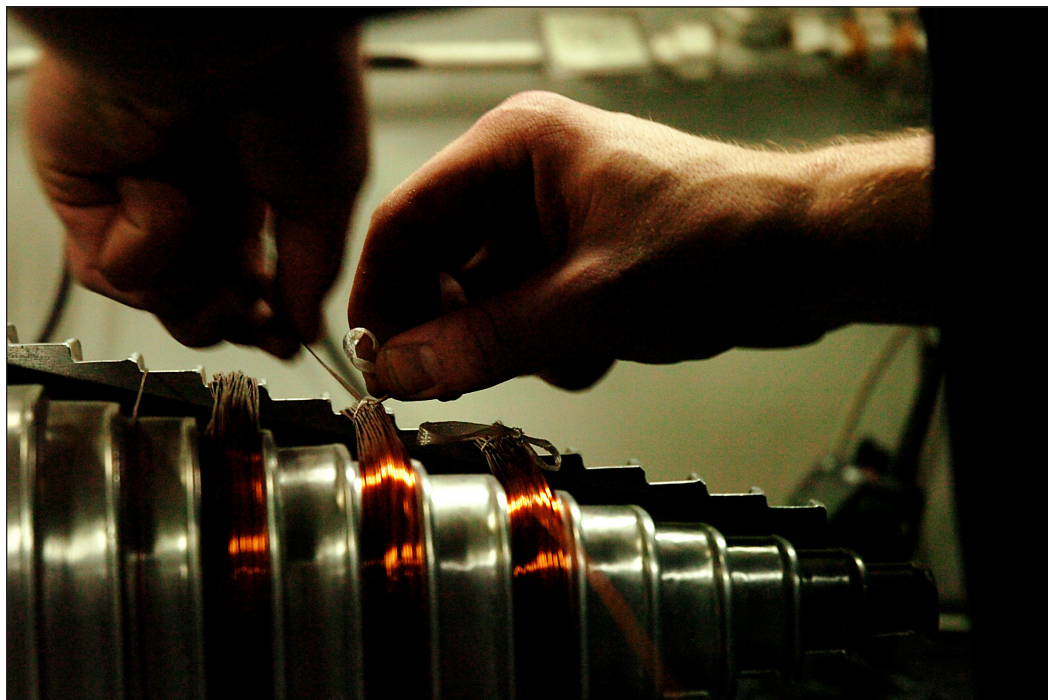
0915-1600

1730-2200

2330-0530

SUNDAYS AND**HOLIDAYS**

1700-2200

Motor rewind

PHAN (AW) Christine Singh

Electrician's Mate 3rd Class Vinn Strupp secures a coil of copper wire that he will use to repair a motor in the rewind shop aboard USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76).

**Department:**

Supply

Job Title: None**Where are
you from?**

Dubuque, Iowa

**What inspires
you?** My
parents**Why did you
join the Navy?**To get away
from home**Who is
responsible
for your
success?**

Myself

**What piece of
advice would
you pass on
to others?** Do
what you have
to do

SK3 Kevin Reeder

March 30, 2006



EM3 Tiffany Teter

March 31, 2006

Department:

Reactor

Job Title: None**Where are
you from?**

Bartley, Neb.

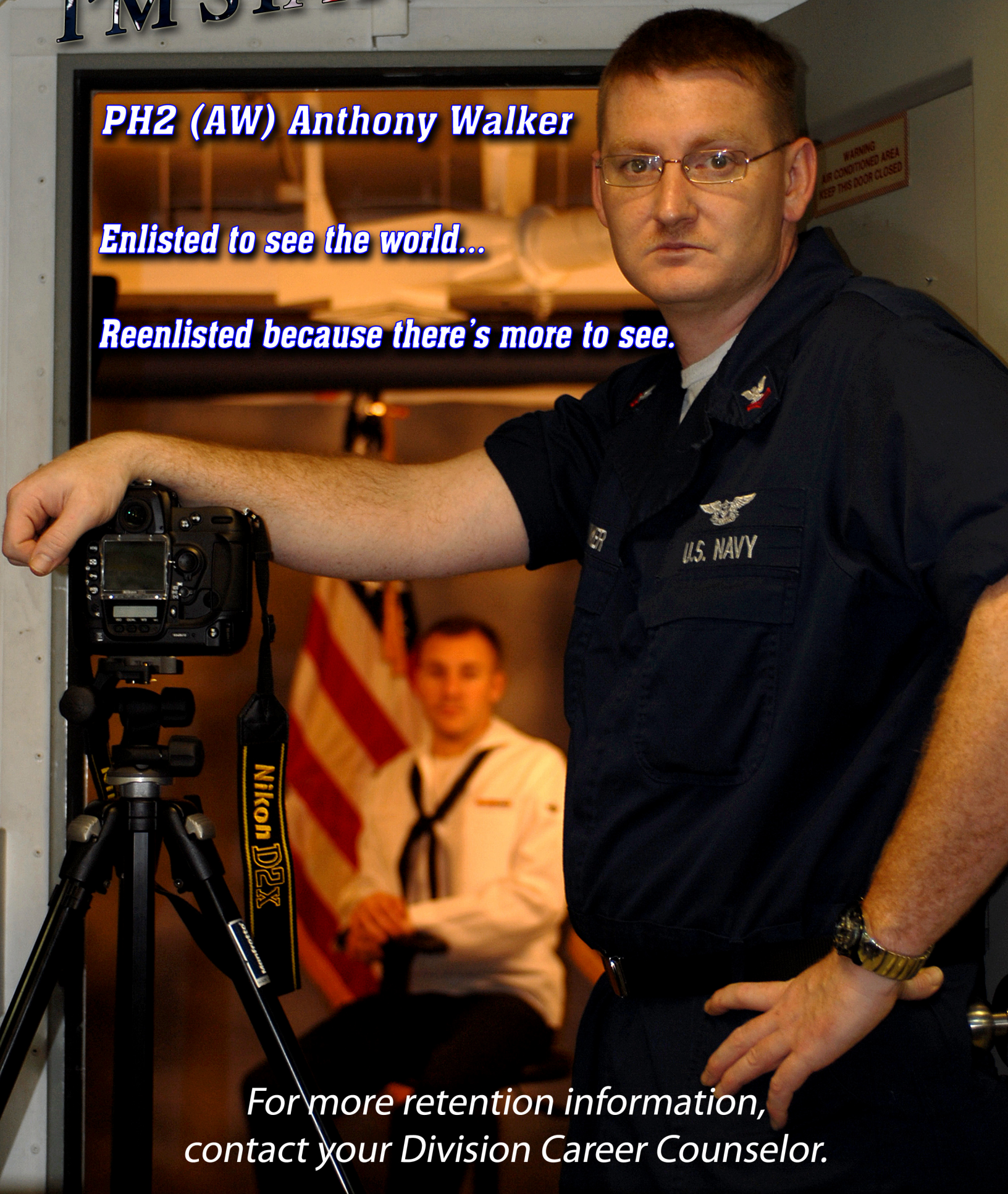
**What inspires
you?** Rewards
for hard work**Why did you
join the Navy?**Travel and
education**Who is
responsible
for your
success?** My
parents**What piece of
advice would
you pass on
to others?**Always research
your plans

I'M STAYING

PH2 (AW) Anthony Walker

Enlisted to see the world...

Reenlisted because there's more to see.



*For more retention information,
contact your Division Career Counselor.*